'green bonus' to Himalayan States for conserving forests. However, National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC), includes a National Mission on a 'green India' that would enhance ecosystem services and focus on increasing forest cover and density and conserving bio-diversity.

Impact of global warming on glaciers

1086. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA:
SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and China have jointly agreed to conduct research on the impact of global warming on glaciers in the Himalayan and Tibetan regions;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has taken up the matter of melting of Himalayan Glaciers with other affected neighbouring countries; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) India and China have signed an Agreement on cooperation on addressing climate change that covers, *inter-alia*, cooperation in observation and monitoring of climate change and undertaking mutually cooperative activities and programmes as appropriate. One of the cooperative activities under this agreement is to undertake joint research and developmental activities.

(c) and (d) The Government has not taken up the matter of melting of Himalayan Glaciers with other affected neighbouring countries.

Conviction under Wildlife Protection Act, 1972

1087. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the conditions under which the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972 is applicable;

(b) what has been the conviction rate under this Act in view of dwindling numbers of protected animals in national parks and reserves;

(c) how many cases under this Act are pending in the various High Courts; and

(d) whether Government proposes to make the penalty clauses under this Act more stringent to secure prompt and better conviction rate?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) The Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 provides for protection of wild animals, birds and plants and for matters connected therewith or ancillary or incidental thereto with a view to ensuring the ecological and environmental security of the country. Any offence related to the wildlife and its habitat attracts the provisions of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.